

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MONROV 03380 091526Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15

ICA-11 EUR-12 /086 W

-----051444 091847Z /47

R 091351Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9250

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONROVIA 3380

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: KN, KS, LI, CH, PEPR

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT TO PEKING: RELATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA

1. ASSISTANT FOREIGN MINISTER FOR AFRICAN AND ASIAN AFFAIRS CHRIS MINIKON AND SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER MARJON KAMARA, IN SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS WITH THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR MAY 4 5, CONFIRMED LOCAL RUMORS THAT PRESIDENT WILLIAM R. TOLBERT WOULD BE MAKING A STATE VISIT TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA. EARLIER PLANS TO GO TO CHINA IN MID-JUNE, FOLLOWING A MEDICAL CHECK-UP IN SWITZERLAND, MIGHT BE CHANGED TO PERMIT AN EARLIER VISIT, PERHAPS IN LATE MAY, ACCORDING TO KAMARA, LEAVING THE PRESIDENT MORE TIME TO PREPARE FOR THE OAU SUMMIT IN JULY.

2. MINIKON AND KAMARA ALSO NOTED THE ARRIVAL MAY 4 OF A DELEGATION FROM NORTH KOREA. BOTH DISCOUNTED THE POSSIBILITY THAT PRESIDENT TOLBERT MIGHT COMBINE A VISIT TO PYONGYANG WITH HIS CHINA TRIP. KAMARA STATED  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MONROV 03380 091526Z

THAT LAST YEAR WHEN A NORTH KOREAN DELEGATION HAD INVITED PRESIDENT TOLBERT TO VISIT PYONGYANG, THE PRESIDENT HAD BEEN POLITE IN HIS RESPONSE BUT HAD NOT GIVEN ANY FORMAL ACCEPTANCE. IN ANY CASE, ACCORDING TO KAMARA, THE PRESIDENT WOULD VISIT SOUTH KOREA BEFORE CONSIDERING A TRIP TO THE NORTH.

3. COMMENT: PRESIDENT TOLBERT HAS NEVER VISITED THE SOVIET UNION. HIS ACCEPTANCE OF AN INVITATION BY THE PRC IS A REFLECTION OF LIBERIAN GRATITUDE FOR THE PRACTICAL AID GIVEN BY THE PRC IN RICE AND SUGAR PRODUCTION (A CONTINUATION OF PROGRAMS BEGUN BY THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA); FOR THE OFFER TO BUILD A SPORTS STADIUM; AND FOR THE SCRUPULOUS AVOIDANCE SO FAR OF "INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS" OF THE GOL, IN OBVIOUS CONTRAST TO ACTIVITIES OF THE LESS RESTRAINED SOVIETS.  
CARTER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978MONROV03380  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780196-0918  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** MONROVIA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780579/aaaacpew.tel  
**Line Count:** 73  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 2d8a2aa2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 apr 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2749692  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESIDENTIAL VISIT TO PEKING: RELATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA  
**TAGS:** PEPR, KN, KS, LI, CH, (TOLBERT, WILLIAM R)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/2d8a2aa2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014